REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR April 6, 2005

FULL HOUSE FOR APRIL 13 WATERFRONT CONFERENCE

The Waterfront Revitalization Conference at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan is full, and we've initiated a waiting list for those who would still like to attend. People on the waiting list will be able to attend the conference, but we may not be able to accommodate them for lunch. If you have already registered but find you can no longer attend, please cancel your registration as soon as possible so that others on the waiting list may attend the lunch. To cancel, please send an email to Becky Lameka of the Great Lakes Commission at blameka@glc.org. The agenda and registration information for the conference is on the web at http://www.glc.org/wiconference/.

BRRTS ON THE WEB DELAY

If you've recently tried to access our database of contaminated sites, BRRTS on the web, you already know that our system is down. We had hoped to have our new application installed within a day or two of inactivating the old system. However, the best-laid plans of government agencies can oft go askew – we've encountered some technical problems. We regret the delay, but hope you'll find our new, improved version of BRRTS on the web to be worth the wait.

GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES SAG AWARDS FOR 31 COMMUNITIES

Governor Doyle has announced \$1.7 million in grants to local governments through the RR Program's Site Assessment Grant (SAG) program. SAG awards support the Governor's "Grow Wisconsin" initiative to build Wisconsin's economic base by providing seed money for redevelopment of brownfield properties. SAG eligible activities include demolition, environmental assessment, and removal of abandoned tanks and containers. These SAG awards will help fund 45 redevelopment projects on 107 acres. Local governments have pledged additional local funds well beyond their required grant match. This is the sixth round of SAG awards since the program began in 2000, and DNR has awarded a total of 257 SAG's. The Governor's press release, including the list of successful SAG applicants for 2005, is on the web at http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/journal_media_detail.asp?prid=1010. For more information about SAG awards, please see http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm.

NEW ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR NORTHEAST REGION (NER)

DNR's NER Headquarters office is scheduled to move on **April 11**, 2005. The new address for headquarters office staff will be 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54313. The post box address will be Box 10448 - use zip code 54307-0448 for the post box address. The email addresses of NER staff will not change, but after the move staff in the headquarters office will have new phone numbers, which are:

Callis, Amy	920-662 -5142
Chronert, Rox	920-662 -5492
Danelski, Denise	920-662 -5494
DuFresne, Kristin	920-662 -5443
Evenson, Lisa	920-662 -5164
Hansen, Diane	920-662 -5168
Hemstreet, Bethany	920-662 -5178
Lauridsen, Keld	920-662 -5420
Nass, Al	920-662 -5161
Urben, Bruce	920-662 -5160
Weissbach, Annette	920-662 -5165
FAX	920-662 -5197

You may leave messages for NER staff at their old (492) phone number until April 14th because phones will ring at the new 662 numbers, but it may take a few days before messages can be left on voice mail. NER may not have computer access from noon April 7 until April 11 or 12.

EPA ANNOUNCES CARE GRANTS

EPA is launching a new grant program to help communities understand and reduce the risk of exposure to toxic chemicals. Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) grant applications are due **May 20**. They offer financial and technical assistance at two levels. In level I (up to \$75,000) applicants may create local partnerships to identify toxic exposures and to set priorities for risk reduction. Level II offers approximately \$300,000 to communities with existing partnerships that are ready to implement risk reduction strategies. Examples of uses for these funds include cleaning up abandoned industrial sites, improving indoor environments in schools, protecting drinking water supplies and reducing diesel emissions. For more information visit: http://cfpub.epa.gov/care/.

HUD BEDI GRANTS AGAIN AVAILABLE

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced competition for approximately \$24 million in grants under the Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI). The deadline for BEDI applications is June 17. There is a cap of \$2 million per BEDI award. BEDI grants are intended for brownfield redevelopment in economic development projects and to increase economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income populations. There are bonus points for projects in federal empowerment zones, enterprise communities and brownfield showcase communities. Funds are focused on creation or retention of businesses, jobs and to increase the local tax base. HUD wants BEDI funds to be used at projects that will provide near-term results and economic benefits, and discourages applications limited to site acquisition and/or remediation without redevelopment plans. BEDI funds are used to enhance the security of projects financed with a new Section 108 guaranteed loan commitment, and a request for a new Section 108 loan guarantee authority must accompany each BEDI application. Section 108 is the loan guarantee provision of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. For more information, please see the BEDI Program section of HUD's web page at http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa05/grpbedi.cfm. For an on-line application, please see http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa05/grpbedi.cfm